

Architectural Transformation and Governance in Jammu: The Legacy of Maharaja Ranbir Singh

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Abstract

Jammu town has been the royal seat to the Dogra rulers till the independence period. Maharaja Gulab Singh laid the foundation of the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir under the Treaty of Amritsar, which was signed between the Maharaja and the British rule in 1846. The Dogras afterwards ruled the territories of Jammu and Kashmir and made remarkable contributions to its infrastructure and socio-economic development. Maharaja Ranbir Singh was one such ruler, under whom the region saw a new period of modernization and especially the Jammu town which was changed along modern planning and governance.

The focus of the present paper is to analyze the role Maharaja Ranbir Singh as an administrator who consolidated his inherited territory and secondly how he modified the administration of the state. It is also a small endeavor to seek the information on the architectural changes that happened during his tenure in the Jammu region and introduction of the versatile architecture and other buildings based on European architecture. Use of Modern techniques in construction of different types of buildings was also continued by his successor, Maharaja Paratap Singh. Moreover, Amar Singh and Ram Singh also built a number of Palaces in the city by adopting the western style of Architecture. Thus, the period was the beginning of Modern Architecture in the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

Keywords: Dogra, Architecture, Modernity, governance. Infrastructure, legacy

Introduction

Jammu, with its rich historical significance and royal heritage, has played a pivotal role in the shaping of the Indian subcontinent. From its establishment as a royal seat to its transformation under various rulers, the region has witnessed significant changes that have left a lasting impact on its culture, politics, and society. The history of Jammu dates back centuries, with its origins intertwined with the rise and fall of various dynasties. The region's strategic location, nestled between the foothills of the Himalayas and the plains of northern India, made it an important center for trade, culture, and political power. Over time, Jammu emerged as a royal seat, attracting rulers who sought to establish their authority in this geographically significant area.

One of the most prominent figures in Jammu's history is Maharaja Gulab Singh. He played a pivotal role in the establishment of the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir. Gulab Singh, a skilled warrior and astute diplomat, rose to power within the Sikh Empire. Recognizing the strategic importance of the Jammu region, he negotiated with the British East India Company following the First Anglo-Sikh War. The resulting Treaty of Amritsar in

1846 led to Gulab Singh's formal recognition as the independent ruler of Jammu and Kashmir, under the suzerainty of the British Crown. This marked the beginning of the Dogra rule in the region. Maharaja had three sons from his Rakwal Rani; Udham Singh, Sohan Singh, and Ranbir Singh but Both Udham and Sohan met very unfortunate Death at the very young age. Now only Ranbir singh was left heir of the Maharaja. He was born in August 1830 in Ramgarh tehsil there was a palace and Ramgarh fort belongs to the Maharaja Gulab Singh. Maharaja Ranbir Singh was the youngest son of Maharaja Gulab Singh, he was adopted by his uncle Suchet singh who had seven queens but couldn't have any son. Therefore, he adopted him as his heir. Now he left the sole successor of the state that he inherited from his father and uncle. The responsibility of the Governance of one of the largest princely states came on the shoulder of young prince Ranbir singh and he handled the state affairs with his great ability.

He was the men who possessed the qualities of both head and heart, was a prominent ruler of the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir during the 19th century. He played a significant role in the consolidation and modernization of his kingdom. Here is an overview of his accomplishments in terms of succession, social and administrative reforms, and his patronage of art, literature, and education.

Methodology:

This study is based on both of primary and secondary sources. The author has employed a qualitative approach to construct the narrative of the research, conducting a thorough analysis of materials gathered from archives and libraries. The study also includes fieldwork, where the author conducted site surveys and made frequent observations to carefully analyze the locations covered in the research. The primary objective of this study is to highlight the legacy of the Dogra rulers and shed light on the periods of development and progress achieved during their reign.

Succession of Maharaja Ranbir Singh: Maharaja Ranbir Singh ascended to the throne of Jammu and Kashmir on 20th February 1856 when his father Gulab singh was still alive; himself performed the coronation ceremony of his son. A special durbar was held in the Mubarak Mandi Khas to mark the Raj Tilak of the young prince of 24. Maharaja marked the forehead of prince with the saffron “qashqah” by his own hand and the large procession of new raja was moved towards the old Mandi with the huge elephants and accompanied the procession on horseback. The ‘hawdas of elephants on which the chiefs mounted were filled by the presents, offerings and precious gifts given by the people. Accession of Ranbir singh on the throne of Jammu and Kashmir, was welcomed by the Britishers and queen of England also sent many precious gifts to the new Maharaja.

Just after one year of his installation on the seat Maharaja Left the world for heaven in 1857. Ranbir singh inherited a region that was in the process of consolidating its rule over various territories and facing challenges from within and outside the kingdom, remained on the throne for 29 years. Maharaja Ranbir singh had three sons and two daughters.

He was a benevolent ruler and an efficient administrator who re-established the Jammu city on Modern lines. After the death of his father, he consolidated the state and carried out a number of social and administrative reforms. He modified the administration to truly a modern system influenced by the Europeans. He was a great patron of art and literature and established a large number of libraries and schools in the city and he made an exquisite contribution in the construction of the temples, palaces and other important buildings. For this he employed a number of artisans from the different countries in his court. His period proved an interregnum between the Medieval and Modern.

Consolidation of the State

It was one of the most difficult tasks to consolidate the state which was very diverse, ethnically, geographically and culturally. Immediate after his installation different chief and governors of his territory rose in rebellions but all the rebels were crushed by him successfully with the help of Britishers and his other allies. Ranbir singh had profound understanding of diplomacy and rule that he learned from his father who brought the large

territory under his own sway. In 1857 Ranbir Singh was sent to Delhi with Diwan Hari Chand who lost his life in this revolt. Financial and Military help provided by the Maharaja was accepted by the Britishers. He was rewarded for the service he rendered to the Britishers at the time of mutiny and to suppress many other revolts by the native states.

In 1852 there were great disturbances in Gilgit, Gaur Rehman, who was the governor at Punial and Yasin and he expelled the Dogra forces and he took the control of Gilgit and ruled the territory for 8 years. In 1860 when Ranbir Singh was the ruler of the Jammu and Kashmir state he marched towards the Gilgit and before the Dogra forces could reach their Gaur Rehman was died, hence the territory was again coming under the control of Dogras. These rebellions occurred again in the territory of Gilgit and Baltistan in the later years of the rule of Maharaja Ranbir which were successfully crushed by both Britishers and Maharaja. In this way he ruled very cordially by making good relations with the Britishers and the native state he brought peace and prosperity into the state and the region witnessed the growth in every field that we can see in the reforms he laid.

Military Administration: Maharaja Ranbir Singh implemented significant reforms within his military administration, leading to the organization of the army into four battalions, each assigned a dedicated General. The Kashmiri army emerged as a complex amalgamation of various systems, haphazardly combined over time, rather than a coherent entity. In addition to the customary divisions like artillery, cavalry, and infantry, there existed three distinct forces alongside specialized corps:

1. The Kholā Fauj.
2. The Jungi Fauj.
3. The Nizamat.
4. Maharaja's Body Guard.
5. Sappers and Miners.
6. The Punch Force.
7. Fort Guards and Outposts.

Mian Ram Singh, the son of the Maharaja, assumed responsibility for overseeing the entire administration of the Maharaja's army.

Uniforms within the army comprised several types:

1. A scarlet tunic with white trousers, issued by the State every four to five years for full dress.
2. A white drill suit provided by the State biannually.
3. A snuff-colored suit made of thin puttoo, initially supplied every two years and later given annually, with its cost deducted from the sepoy's pay.
4. A thick puttoo coat provided every third year, with charges borne by the sepoy.

In 1871, a uniform made of French grey felting with red facings was introduced in certain regiments. Plans were in place to adopt this uniform for regular use across the entire army, while reserving the scarlet uniform for special occasions. This new uniform was not only robust and warm but also practical for everyday wear.

A. Social and Administrative Reforms:

1. Administrative Modifications Inspired by European Systems: Maharaja Ranbir Singh was influenced by the administrative systems of European nations and sought to implement certain reforms within his kingdom. He introduced administrative changes to streamline governance and enhance efficiency. He modified the judicial administration by introducing a Ranbir Penal Code, also known as Ranbir Dandh Bidhi in Dogri. He setup regular courts and reframed the criminal and civil laws. He made justice affordable and readily accessible to all his subjects. He appointed *Thanedar* and *Kotwals* to maintain the peace and law and order in their respective jagirs. He was always ready to listen complaints of his subjects for that he held two durbars in a day, and address all the complaints and provide the solutions to their appeals and no one has required paying court fees. He has only to stand in the Mandi (court) with raised hand. The case related to Hindu and the Muslim subjects deals accordingly with the local custom. There were two bodies setup for this purpose, *Dharma Shashtra* and *Sarah Mohammadi*. He established different administrative departments. Like Revenue, trade and

the budget department separately setup under the officials. He appointed various experts from the inside and outside the state. For the management of revenue department, he introduced '*modus operandi*'. During his time *Daftar-i-Diwani* was another department deals with the account affairs. *Kardars* were appointed to collect the revenue, the system under which the account department was run based on both the native and English model.

During the period from 1856 to 1885, the State's administration of justice had not fully eradicated the primitive and mediaeval aspects that were still present. The administrative apparatus under Maharaja Gulab Singh faced challenges in its organization due to the ruler's focus on consolidating his territorial acquisitions and engaging in frequent military campaigns. Undoubtedly, Maharaja Ranbir Singh implemented a system of twenty-five regular courts of justice and enacted a penal code. However, he was unable to eliminate corruption and other shortcomings, such as the prolonged duration of case resolution. Given the presence of inexperienced authorities and the individual's limited exposure to the sector, it would be unlikely for him to achieve success in a situation where even the contemporary Indian State struggles to find a solution. The severity of the Ranbir Penal Code can be attributed to its implementation of punitive measures like as amputation of limbs and flogging. This particular trait can serve as a response to critics who question its efficacy, especially in light of several countries that have recently embraced this system with a sense of national and religious pride.

The judicial and police system implemented by Ranbir Singh exhibited a notable level of efficiency. The maintenance of public order was effectively ensured. Instances of serious crimes were exceedingly rare, and what is particularly noteworthy to visitors is the high level of personal and property protection experienced by all individuals travelling within the Happy Valley. According to Major C.E. Bates, it is crucial to highlight a significant aspect, which pertains to the adjudication of homicide and rape cases. These particular cases are tried by a jury that consists of individuals chosen in a way similar to that of British India. Specifically, out of a pool of 100 men, 50 are nominated by the complainant, while the remaining 50 are selected by the accused. The incidence of capital punishment was infrequent.

2. Reforms in Governance and Infrastructure: Ranbir Singh undertook a comprehensive set of administrative and infrastructure reforms with the objective of modernizing his jurisdiction. He prioritized the enhancement of the judicial system, the improvement of public service provisions, and the development of more efficient infrastructure. The aforementioned reforms played a significant role in fostering the growth and ensuring the stability of the region. He implemented postal and telegraph services within the region, constructed several roads and bridges, and carried out numerous land reforms. Additionally, he enhanced the judicial services by establishing regular and mixed courts. The existing model of the Army was reorganized and supplemented with certain additions. In 1884, the Dharmarth trust founded with the primary objective of overseeing the management of temples and offering financial assistance for the establishment of temple schools and other philanthropic endeavors. In the year 1877, he initiated the establishment of a communication network connecting the regions of Jammu and Sialkot. The construction of the Kashmir to Gilgit and Astor to Askardo routes in 1883. The initiation of railway construction was undertaken by his immediate successor, Maharaja Pratap Singh. These endeavors played a significant part in the advancement of transportation and communication. The recognition of this veracity is presumed to have dawned onto Maharaja Ranbir Singh subsequent to the onset of a severe famine in the valley during the year 1877. It was during this period that his administration confronted substantial impediments in the conveyance of grains, mostly attributable to the dearth of mechanized thoroughfares. The famine affected the trade of prostitute and it also proved a great bow to the other trades. But the severity of this famine reduced with the help of Britishers and effective handling of the during the peak of British strategic engagement in the region, there arose a need for adaptable road infrastructure to enable efficient military mobility in anticipation of a future Russian menace. The efficient distribution of information over the extensive territory of the State, which encompasses the Korakoram and the Pamirs to the northern edge of the Punjab Plain, is of utmost importance. Furthermore, he undertook the construction of numerous Sarais, hospitals, schools, gardens, and notably, temples. Additionally, he erected several Dalk Bungalows specifically designed to accommodate European tourists. During the reign of the

Maharaja, a concrete road was constructed between Kashmir and Kohala, known as the Jhelum Valley Road. The discovery of sapphire mines in the Padar valley was also made during this particular period.

The exclusive prerogative to bestow approval was vested in Maharaja Ranbir Singh, with the intention of preventing the act of terminating human life. The monarch's great generosity and erudition have had a pervasive impact on all levels of government and the legal system in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. He embarked on a path towards modernization through consistent and determined efforts.

During the reign of Maharaja Ranbir Singh in Jammu and Kashmir, which lasted from 1857 to 1885, there was a notable architectural transformation that took place in the region. The influence of European architecture on the city of Jammu was evident in various aspects, ranging from the introduction of modern planning and architectural styles to the construction of temples, palaces, and significant buildings. This period witnessed a fusion of traditional and modern architectural elements, resulting in the creation of architectural landmarks that showcased a unique blend of cultural influences.

B. Influence of European Architecture on Jammu City:

1. **Introduction of Modern Planning and Architectural Styles:** Ranbir Singh was eager to modernize his domain and was influenced by contemporary European architectural trends. He brought modern planning principles to Jammu, emphasizing organized layouts, wider streets, and enhanced infrastructure. This departure from conventional urban planning ushered in a more structured and organized cityscape. The construction of diverse Gardens, well-equipped street drainage lines, latrines, and the installation of electric points in the city and palaces. Fans and lifts were also installed in the residences constructed by His Highness and his successors. Which are still effectively working in the Amar Mahal Palace and Rani Charki palace in Mubarak Mandi.

2. **Employment of Artisans from Various Countries:** Maharaja Ranbir Singh actively encouraged the influx of skilled artisan's craftsmen and painters and weavers from various countries, particularly Europe. These artisans brought with them a wealth of architectural knowledge and skills that contributed to the transformation of the region's-built environment. Their expertise played a pivotal role in the integration of European architectural elements into local construction projects. Various architects and the engineer were employed by Maharaja and his successors for the construction of the various edifices, royal palaces, Dalk Bungalows and the government buildings, the blend of architectural styles can be clearly seen in the buildings of Dogra period. Use of clocks, Italians and marble roofing used in the inner palaces of Dogra queens. In 19th century there was introduction of indo-sarcentic style of architecture used mainly in the government and official buildings.

C. Construction of Temples, Palaces, and Significant Buildings:

1. **Architectural Landmarks during Maharaja Ranbir Singh's Reign:** During the reign of Maharaja Ranbir Singh, a notable period of architectural and infrastructural advancement transpired, resulting in a lasting impact on the built environment. During this period, there was a proliferation of temple, palace, and other significant architectural constructions, each representing a complex fusion of many architectural elements. The Ranbir Canal deserves special recognition as an impressive engineering feat that not only enabled effective irrigation but also contributed significantly to agricultural advancement.

The Amar Mahal Palace is a notable architectural masterpiece of its time, Characterized by its skillful integration of European architectural influences with the traditional aesthetics of Rajasthan. The palace serves as a tribute to the visionary perspective of the Maharaja and his inclination towards incorporating many architectural influences from other cultures. Aligned with this creative interchange, the establishment of the Army headquarters and the green hall structures demonstrated a deviation from local architectural conventions, embracing Western design principles that influenced the developing urban landscape. The innovative approach of Maharaja Ranbir Singh also encompassed the development of hospitality infrastructure. The construction of different Dak bungalows and rest homes specifically designed for British tourists demonstrated a keen understanding of the prevailing requirements and tastes of the time. The architectural constructions, characterized by contemporary designs, served the purpose of accommodating European guests while also facilitating cross-cultural exchanges. The architectural heritage of Raja Ranbir Singh beyond the geographical

confines of Jammu. Initiatives like the Ramnagar complex and the distinctive buildings in Mandi, including the Amar Singh Palace and Raja Ram Singh Palace, bore the imprints of his reign. The efforts were initiated during his term, but they were further enhanced by his successors, namely his sons, who continued to promote the development of art and architecture in the area.

Following the passing of Maharaja Ranbir Singh, his successors demonstrated a steadfast dedication to upholding the path he had established, hence intensifying the forward momentum of progress. The state underwent a transformation into a stronghold of advancement, with the architectural scenery reflecting this shift. The consistent commitment to progress not only established his lasting impact but also initiated a period of ongoing development and success.

2. **Fusion of Traditional and Modern Architectural Elements:** One of the remarkable aspects of architectural transformation during this period was the seamless fusion of traditional and modern architectural elements. European architectural features, such as ornate facades, arches, and domes, were integrated with local architectural traditions, including intricately carved wooden facades and traditional roofing styles. This fusion resulted in a unique architectural vocabulary that symbolized both the Maharaja's aspirations for modernization and his respect for local heritage. The architectural transformation under Maharaja Ranbir Singh's rule brought about a significant shift in the urban landscape of Jammu. The influence of European architecture, modern planning principles, and the employment of skilled artisans led to the creation of architectural landmarks that showcased a harmonious blend of traditional and modern elements. This period remains a testament to the Maharaja's vision for a modern and culturally rich Jammu that respected its past while embracing the future.

Under Maharaja Ranbir Singh's state witnessed the enactment of a centralized and well-structured administrative system, with efforts to modernize diverse industries. Nevertheless, the latter period of Dogra governance was characterized by a growing British presence, as the British colonial authorities endeavored to extend their dominion and sustain security within the area. This transition was characterized by a delicate balance of power. The establishment of British influence in the princely state was facilitated through the formation of political alliances, development of commercial connections, and implementation of strategic agreements. Over time, the British gradually increased their level of control and influence over the state's affairs. During this historical era, there were various obstacles that emerged as a result of political instability, socio-cultural transformations, and regional disputes. The influence and the interference also increased after the death of Maharaja's son Pratap Singh, who succeeded his father in 1885. A permanent residency of the Britishers was also established in the Gilgit under him, and most of the foreign state affairs were started governing on the instructions of the Britishers.

D. Evaluation of the Impact of Maharaja Ranbir Singh's Rule on the Region:

1. **Administrative Reforms:** Maharaja Ranbir Singh conducted a series of administrative changes with the objective of modernizing the governance of the state. He implemented a structured administrative framework, effectively creating mechanisms for revenue collection and taxation. These efforts resulted in heightened state revenues and enhanced infrastructure. His reign facilitated a time characterized by a relative state of political stability within the region, hence enabling the successful execution of numerous reformative measures and developmental efforts. His emphasis on the enhancement of administrative and infrastructural aspects facilitated the establishment of a more structured and effective system of governance, thereby playing a crucial role in the advancement of the region.
2. **Infrastructure Development:** During his tenure, substantial endeavors were undertaken to enhance transportation and communication infrastructures. Infrastructure development was undertaken through the construction of roads and bridges, which served to connect previously isolated regions and enhance the efficiency of trade and commerce. Under his rule, there was a notable rise in cultural interchange with adjacent regions, which facilitated the development of intellectual pursuits and the introduction of novel concepts. Countries such as Britain, France, Italy, and China established favorable economic links with the state of

Jammu and Kashmir. The Kashmiri shawl, renowned for its silk products, gained significant popularity worldwide. Furthermore, a significant number of educational institutions, healthcare facilities, religious structures such as temples, and architectural marvels like palaces and forts were created, contributing significantly to the overall development of the region.

3. **Educational Initiatives:** Maharaja Ranbir Singh actively promoted the establishment of schools and educational institutions. The prioritization of education established the foundation for the advancement of intellectual growth and the dissemination of contemporary concepts within the area. He offered several funds to educational institutions, such as universities, schools, research centers, and Pathshalas, with the aim of facilitating free education for students. Additionally, he played a significant role in the establishment of Punjab University. The advent of educational institutions and enhanced transit infrastructure enabled the dissemination of contemporary ideas, fostering a receptive attitude towards innovation and advancement. The Maharaja fostered amicable relations with both domestic and international states, thereby establishing robust trade networks. These contacts facilitated the Maharaja's exposure to diverse cultures, leading to the interchange of goods and ideas that played a pivotal role in modernizing the state.

4. **Land Reforms:** he undertook land reforms with the objective of enhancing agricultural production and promoting fair allocation of land resources. Consequently, these reforms resulted in enhanced agricultural output and improved socio-economic conditions for the populace. The Ranbir Canal made significant contributions to the realm of agriculture. This initiative has the dual purpose of providing assistance to the rural population and playing a significant role in stimulating the state's economy and enhancing the quality of life for the residents of Jammu. The management of land records was also regarded as one of his significant accomplishments. During his tenure, the restoration of pre-existing canals and wells played a crucial part in enhancing the irrigation system, hence leading to notable improvements in the agricultural sector of the state. In the year, 1873, the Maharaja implemented modifications to the land revenue system, specifically focusing on the resettlement of land in the wazarats of Jasrota, Reasi, Minawar, Udampur, and the districts surrounding Jammu. Prior to this, a settlement had been established in 1860, wherein a predetermined cash sum was determined. However, this settlement ended in 1868. The process of resettling land revenue and implementing measuring techniques has resulted in significant advancements in farming practices, leading to a notable gain of 10 percent in revenue growth. It was once again established for duration of ten years. The land revenue contracts in Kashmir, known as the "five year's farms," were recently renewed with a 15 percent increase. In 1873, the Maharaja implemented a significant reform in Kashmir by discontinuing the practice of land income farming and introducing a structured settlement system based on predetermined payment sums for a period of three years. The tax administration system that was passed down through inheritance exhibited certain deficiencies, which were mitigated by the reforms implemented by Maharaja Ranbir Singh. there were some important officials appointed by the Maharaja to administered the affairs related to the land and agriculture;

1. The *Tarazudar*, or scales man, who wighs out the share of the state and the Zamindars.
2. The *Shakdars*; who watch the crops.
3. The *Sazawals*: who control the Shakdars
4. The *Patwari*; An accountant
5. The *Muqaddam*; who helps the Pandits.
6. The *Kardars*, land agents
7. The *Tehsildars*; were in-charge of several purganaas.

Undoubtedly, Maharaja Ranbir Singh's contributions across various domains for the progress of the state are truly commendable. He dedicated his entire life to exhaustive efforts in a time when resources were scarce and development was limited. Despite these challenges, he pioneered the creation of vital infrastructure, constructed roads that seemed impossible, and initiated numerous projects spanning education, research, trade, and healthcare. Under his leadership, every sector flourished, marking an era of remarkable advancement. One of his outstanding achievements was his role as a custodian of art and culture. This legacy of preserving and nurturing cultural heritage continued through his successors, who played pivotal roles in the state's development. However, reflecting on the present era, it's essential to question what measures we have taken to

safeguard this rich legacy. Our Duggar identity offers us innumerable reasons to take pride, yet it is imperative to assess our efforts in conserving the heritage left by the Dogra rulers. Our focus should turn to learning from the proactive initiatives and transformative reforms instituted by Maharaja Ranbir Singh.

A key aspect of his legacy lies in the way he orchestrated various elements. His contributions towards regional growth were multifaceted, with a focus on redefining the educational landscape. Through the establishment of quality institutes, societies, and organizations, he systematically elevated education and research. Sadly, in the contemporary scenario, we seem to lack departments or initiatives dedicated to meaningful research or the preservation of art and culture. To revive our cultural heritage, it's paramount that we draw inspiration from Maharaja Ranbir Singh's pioneering efforts. By rekindling the spirit of proactive institution-building and reform, we can set a course towards the preservation and enhancement of our cultural legacy, thereby ensuring its endurance for generations to come.

Conclusion

The reign of Maharaja Ranbir Singh holds significant importance as a critical chapter during the transitional period between the mediaeval and modern epochs in the region of Jammu and Kashmir. By implementing a series of ambitious reforms and pursuing innovative initiatives, he successfully organized a significant socio-economic transformation, thereby establishing the fundamental basis for the emergence of modernity in the region. At the core of his historical impact were his methodical efforts in enhancing administrative efficiency, stimulating the development of infrastructure, fostering the advancement of education, and spearheading land reform initiatives. The strategic manoeuvres made had a lasting impact on the trajectory of the region, establishing a forward-thinking framework for future modernization efforts. The age in question serves as a remarkable monument to his fervent enthusiasm for integrating and modernizing his domain. The orchestration of his administrative reforms and improvements in governance aligned harmoniously with the gradual increase in infrastructural developments. Significantly, his philanthropic support of the arts, literature, and scholasticism served as a catalyst for fostering cultural flourishing and intellectual prowess within his realm. The passage of time has solidified his historical significance as a period characterized by progress and change in the chronicles of Jammu and Kashmir.

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